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*Sub B7*  
b. drying said array on said solid support at reduced pressure,  
wherein said improvement increases the pore size of the porous polymer.

- A1*  
2. (Amended) An array comprising:  
porous polymer pads on a solid surface, wherein the porous polymer pads are freeze dried  
by:  
a. freezing said array on said solid support, and  
b. drying said array on said solid support at reduced pressure,  
thereby increasing pore size in the porous polymer.

3. The array of claim 2 wherein a specific binding substance is covalently linked to said porous  
polymer pads.

- A2*  
*Sub C2*  
5. A method for freeze drying an array comprising porous polymer pads on a solid support,  
said method comprising:  
a. freezing said array on said solid support and  
b. drying said array on said solid support at reduced pressure.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are under consideration in this case.

Claims 1, 2, 3 and 5 have been amended to claim with more particularity that which the  
Applicants consider their invention. Support for these amendments are found throughout the  
specification and in the originally filed claims.

An Appendix with pending claims and with a marked-up version of the changes in the  
amended claims captioned "Version with markings to show changes made" has been attached for  
the Examiner's convenience. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.